

CAL DOOLEY
PRESIDENT AND CEO

January 14, 2014

The Honorable Michael McCaul Chairman House Committee on Homeland Security H2-176 Ford House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Bennie G. Thompson Ranking Member House Committee on Homeland Security H2-176 Ford House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman McCaul and Ranking Member Thompson:

The American Chemistry Council (ACC) would like to thank you and your colleagues on the Committee on Homeland Security for your work on the National Cybersecurity and Critical Infrastructure Protection Act of 2013, H.R. 3696, and commend you for the extensive outreach efforts to industry stakeholders. We strongly support the passage of this legislation through the Committee and look forward to continuing to work with you to address potential cyberthreats.

As the primary national trade association for chemical manufacturers, ACC represents a \$770 billion industry that employs 784,000 Americans in good-paying jobs. With the increase in shale gas production, the chemical industry is experiencing a renaissance in the United States, which has resulted in nearly \$91 billion in planned capital expenditures that will provide tens of thousands of additional new jobs. Cybersecurity is a critical issue for ACC's members as cyberthreats evolve, and ensuring that we have a national framework in place that protects these critical assets is an important issue for our industry.

ACC and its member companies are currently working with the Administration to provide industry input on the most effective implementation of the President's Executive Order 13636, Improving Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity. While the Executive Order is not fully implemented, ACC believes that constructive execution of the Executive Order, combined with a robust legislative framework, will be the most productive model to create a strong national cyber policy. H.R. 3696 is a valuable initiative that can help support this effort.

Additionally, ACC supports extending the liability limits to cybersecurity in the Support Antiterrorism by Fostering Effective Technologies Act (SAFETY Act). The SAFETY Act is a



valuable tool that can be used to provide a tangible incentive for companies seeking its designation to improve cybersecurity. Further, by integrating the SAFETY Act with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) cybersecurity framework, there would be a cohesive policy, significantly elevating the cybersecurity posture of U.S. critical infrastructure. NIST is scheduled to release the framework on February 12, and the government and private sector have been engaged in a spirited dialogue over incentives for adopting the framework. By tying the SAFETY Act designation to framework adoption, companies' risks will be limited, and they will continue to make the necessary investments in cybersecurity.

We support your efforts to ensure the nation's critical infrastructure is protected from cyberthreats and will continue our efforts to support the work of the Committee on this serious national security issue.

Sincerely

Cal Dooley